30th July 1962]

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know, Sir, what is the general qualification of the present Thayis?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Even people with IV and V Standard qualifications have been selected and appointed.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Are these Thayis recruited for the pre-school children? The Hon. Minister just now stated that if sufficient number of Thayis were not available, they would recruit new ones whose general educational qualifications would not be less than VIII Standard whereas people with only IV and V Standard qualifications have already been appointed.

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Yes, Sir. In view of the previous experience, it may be considered.

Smallpox

a* 93 *Q.*—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that smallpox is prevalent in epidemic form in the fishermen colonies in Kanyakumari district;

(*b*) if so, the number of persons affected and the number of fatal cases, if any; and

(*c*) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENKATACHELLAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Protected water-supply

a* 94 *Q.*—T. V. DEVARAJA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 338 on 1st September 1961—

(*a*) whether the investigation in regard to the provision of protected water-supply to Tiruvannamalai from Penniar has been completed; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Field particulars are being collected.

Tamil Pandits

* 110 S.N. *Q.*—DR. A. CHIDAMBARANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state with reference to the statement made by the Minister for Finance on 16th December 1961, the stage at which the question of reducing the hours of work of Tamil Pandits from 17 to 14 now stands?

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a Question postponed from the list of questions for 5th July 1962.